

REMARKS

This is a preliminary amendment before the first Office Action.

Claims 1-12 are currently pending. Applicant has amended the specification, claims and Abstract to correct grammatical errors and to make the application conform to U.S. practice. Claims 3, 4, 7-9, 11 and 12 have been amended so as to be singularly dependent on claim 1; claim 6 has been amended so as to be singularly dependent on claim 3. None of the amendments present an issue of new matter.

Applicant submits claims 1-12 are in condition for examination, early notification of which is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney at (562) 244-5671 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

If there are any fees due and owing in respect to this amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fees to deposit account number 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,



Karin L. Williams

Registration No. 36,721

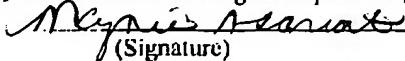
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Marjorie Scariati

(Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)


(Signature)